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## The Acadia Athenæum.

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SENATOR BOYD, in his recent lecture, spoke in disapproving terms of certain features in the modern education of women. Such criticisms based on observation, experience and practical culture are worthy of notice; and any note of alarm in reference to so important a subject should be taken up by all friends of true common-sense education.

The views of Dr. Holland, whose opinions the lecturer endorsed, may be gathered from the following quotation:

"If a girl be shut up in a boarding school conducted on the high pressure principle, where imagination is stimulated by restraint, and disobedience to law is provoked by its unreasonableness, it is indeed very bad for her.

It is probable that the theatre is a school of vice rather than of virtue, that the ball-room is a promoter of dissipation and that indiscriminate society has its temptations and its dangers; but a female boarding school, shut off from general society by law, its members lacking free exercise in the open air, denied the privilege of daily amusements, and presided over by teachers, who fail to understand the nature of the precious material they have in charge, is as much worse for mind and morals than all these combined, as can well be imagined."

We have before us the first number of the *Acadian Scientist*, the organ of the *Acadian Science Club*—an association formed by some of the leading scientists of our Province for the purpose of awakening a broader and more general interest in scientific subjects; of inducing young men and women to engage in systematic study at home; and of helping one another in the ennobling study of nature's works. The club prescribes quarterly courses of study and reading. The necessary books are furnished at cost. A nominal fee of fifty cents is the only condition of membership. The objects of this Society are good, and it is worthy of every encouragement, as it is a move in the right direction for supplying a real deficiency in the scientific studies in our Province. The club is extending its membership not only in Nova Scotia but throughout the sister Provinces and even in the U. S. The paper is edited by A. J. Penco, A.B., of the class of '81, who is also Secretary of the club. We strongly commend the objects of this Society to the consideration of all who are interested in scientific studies, or who desire to spend their leisure moments in self-improvement.

THE accommodations of the students have been so satisfactory in almost every respect that opportunities for complaint have seldom presented themselves to us. We regret that even now we have reason to refer to a matter which has caused the students to be discontented. The reading-room is rented by the literary society from the College authorities, and is supposed to be kept in a comfortable condition. The students cannot afford to deprive themselves of its advantages, but we have no hesitation in saying that for the greater part of the cold weather, the room has been unfit for use. There is a noticeable absence of both tables and chairs, but the most disagreeable feature of the room is its coldness. The class-rooms are usually characterized by the opposite extreme, and it cannot but be not only disagreeable to the students to be subjected to such changes of temperature, but also highly prejudicial to their health. The pre-